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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

THANH, LOAN H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3763

DATE MAILED: 09/30/2003

22

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/635,083

Applicant(s)

LARSON ET AL.

Examiner

LoAn H. Thanh

Art Unit

3763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3-7, 10-14 and 17-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15, 16 and 20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 August 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The drawing objection is being maintained. It is clear that there is a fluid source and a hub, but it does not show the structural organization of the claimed elements.

The art rejection under Laine and Lax has been withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment. However the rejection under Rosengart et al. has been maintained.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant is reminded of the elected embodiment of figs. 10-12 in paper 11.

Claims 3,10,17 as amended have been withdrawn since they do not read on the elected embodiment.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the fluid source and the hub **disposed about the first elongate shaft proximate the proximal end thereof** must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered. If the housing (950) is suppose to be the hub then applicant is recommended to disclose that in the specification or at least make it clear in the record that is the case since the hub that is disclosed is the hub on the proximal end of the third elongated shaft.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: Applicant is requested to provide antecedent basis for the radial rib in the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2,8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Rosengart et al. (WO 99/44656).

Rosengart et al. disclose a catheter shaft assembly (10) having a first (12,70) and second (60, 62) elongate shaft and at least one interstitial member (76) in between. Further, Rosengart et al disclose a hub disposed proximate the proximal end

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of the first elongated shaft (12) and a slider (24) disposed about the second elongate shaft (60) proximate the proximal portion. Further, the slider is disposed within a chamber defined by the hub wherein the slider extends the needle (60, 62). With respect to the hub, it is considered to be the proximal portion which is wider at the proximal portion of the first elongated shaft (12). See figures 1,3-5, abstract and pages 6-8. With respect to claims 2-3,9-10, the interstitial member element (76) which projects from the outer surface of the second shaft and/or from the inner surface of the first elongate shaft in as much as applicant has discussed that the interstitial member of applicant's can be the mechanical stop (974). Rosengart et al. is deemed to still read on the claim. The interstitial member of Rosengart et al. contacts a portion of the portion the inner shaft within the interstitial member.

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Davison et al. (WO 98/161657).

Davison et al. disclose a first and second elongate shaft having an interstitial member/ o-ring (20) disposed to engage only a portion of the portion of the outer surface between the proximal and distal ends of the interstitial member. See figure 2. 4

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 15-16, 20 is allowable over the prior art of record.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3,8-10 have been considered but are not persuasive.

Applicant's amendment has not provided any further structural distinguishing element which is not provided for by the prior art. Applicant has only further limit the claim by limiting the inner surface of the interstitial member shaped to engage only a portion of the outer surface of the second elongate shaft between the proximal and distal end of the interstitial member. With respect to Rosengart et al., the interstitial member 76 shows that limitation.

"A portion of a portion" of the inner shaft been considered as much as figs. 11 and 12 have shown. If applicant is intending this to be anything other than what is shown in figs. 11-12, then it would be treated as directed to non-elected embodiment. As understood by the Examiner in the previous interview and amendment, "a portion of a portion" is considered to be analogous to an o-ring disposed between 2 tubular elements such that the o-ring is only in contact with a portion of the inner shaft between the proximal and distal end of the o-ring/interstitial member.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LoAn H. Thanh whose telephone number is (703) 305-0038. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to alternating Fridays (7:00 am-4:30 pm).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Casler can be reached on (703) 308-3552. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LoAn H. Thanh', with a stylized, cursive script.

LoAn H. Thanh
Primary Examiner
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LT